The Alternative of Waste Control

Population growth and life style give big effect in waste amount. To get high effectiveness and efficiency of waste processing in a city, the right method of waste processing becomes a crucial factor. The method must be environmentally friendly, integrated, and useful for society both economy and social. Beside it, the right use of technology is also important.

Various alternatives of waste control and processing need to do in order to take off a waste problem entirely. A landfill isn't a suitable alternative today because there is no continuity and can cause environmental problems. The alternatives of waste control should be able to take all waste disposals. By recycling all waste and sending back to people economy or nature is one of promising alternatives for creating an environment free of waste and increasing the economic matters of society. A recycle process also will reduce the pressure of natural resources. Therefore, reducing the waste can be a main priority rather than always being focus on growth of waste amount.

The waste disposed must be chosen until every part can be composted or recycled optimally. This is better than remove it to mixture of waste disposal system today. The mixture of waste disposal can damage and reduce the material value that probably can be used again from that waste substance. The organic substances can pollute other substances that may be recycled and the poison also can damage both of them.

Below are the principals that can be applied in waste processing. These are known as 4R:

1. Reduce
As much as possible to reduce goods or material we use. More material we use, more waste we get. For example, we always use plastic pocket when shopping. If we shop three times a week, then in one month we will produce 12 plastic pockets. The stack of plastic garbage pocket will increase if we don't reduce its use immediately or even we can change plastic pocket with shopping pocket which is more environment friendly such as a pocket made from plait of coconut leaves.

2. Reuse
As much as possible to choose goods that can be recycled. Avoid using disposable goods. This point will extend goods time use before it becomes garbage. For example, use plastic bottle (for soap or cooking oil) that can be filled repeatedly. So that we will not produce plastic bottle until next several times

3. Recycle
As much as possible to recycle the goods we don't use anymore. There aren't all goods which can be recycled. But nowadays there are a lot of informal and home industries which use the waste become another useful product. Among those industries, there is industry that changes plastic into souvenir, waste paper into painting and miniature games, or aluminum foil garbage into bag and wallet.

4. Replace
Examine our daily goods. Change the goods which only can be used once with more durable goods. Also examine using only environment friendly goods. For example, change plastic pocket with basket when shopping and don't use Styrofoam because both of those materials can't be done in degradation naturally. We can use plait bag from coconut leaves or bamboo as substitute of plastic pocket and also use banana leaves to pack our food.

Waste is a consequence from complex human activities because every time human's activities will produce waste. Amount of waste is comparable with the consumption level of daily material used. And so do waste types. It also depends on material type we consume. Therefore, the waste processing can't be separated from society life style. With 4R, we hope that waste processing will be done for good.